**“The Kite Runner” Lesson Plan**

**Christine Calhoun**

Here is some information regarding Kite Running and the history behind it. Below are also a few websites on how to make a kite. Use one of the websites and “build” your own kite. Make it as colorful or plain as you would like. Somewhere on the kite, please write one main goal you would like to have for your future. If you would like to add more, feel free to do so.

<http://www.allfreecrafts.com/kids/paper-kites.shtml>

<http://www.my-best-kite.com/kite-for-kids.html>

<http://www.bigwindkites.com/20kids>

<http://www.ehow.com/how_5369445_make-kite-kids.html>

<http://www.marthastewart.com/271738/making-a-kite>

[**Home**](http://www.al.com) > [**Yellowhammering Afghanistan - al.com**](http://blog.al.com/afghanistan/)

**Kite running**

Published: Thursday, December 13, 2007, 6:56 AM     Updated: Thursday, December 13, 2007, 7:02 AM

**[](http://connect.al.com/user/mtomberl/index.html)**By [**Michael Tomberlin -- The Birmingham News**](http://connect.al.com/user/mtomberl/index.html) The Birmingham News   
Follow

[**Tweet**](http://twitter.com/share?count=horizontal)

**Share**

1

http://media.al.com/design/baseline/img/roundbox_arrow_up.gif

**Share** **close**

[**Google Buzz**](http://www.google.com/buzz/post?url=http%3A%2F%2Fblog.al.com%2Fafghanistan%2F2007%2F12%2Fkite_running.html) [**Digg**](http://digg.com/submit?phase=2&url=http%3A%2F%2Fblog.al.com%2Fafghanistan%2F2007%2F12%2Fkite_running.html&title=Kite%20running&bodytext=&topic=) [**Stumble Upon**](http://www.stumbleupon.com/submit?url=http%3A%2F%2Fblog.al.com%2Fafghanistan%2F2007%2F12%2Fkite_running.html&title=Kite%20running) [**Fark**](http://www.fark.com/cgi/farkit.pl?u=http%3A%2F%2Fblog.al.com%2Fafghanistan%2F2007%2F12%2Fkite_running.html&h=Kite%20running)

[**Share**](javascript:void(0)) [**Email**](javascript:OpenWindow('http://www.al.com/sendthispage/sendthispage.ssf?'+location.href,490,510);) [**Print**](http://blog.al.com/afghanistan/print.html)

A little boy clings to his kite in rural Afghanistan.

Kites and Afghanistan have become intertwined in the mind of the international community.

Of course, Khaled Hosseini's superb "The Kite Runner" novel is the biggest reason why. The movie based on the book opens this weekend in the U.S.

After reading the novel myself, I became acutely aware of the kites all over this country.

Driving into Kabul, children can be seen along the sides of the road dancing with the wind with some paper, some sticks and some string. In the poorest of villages, children have scrounged up materials to patch together what passes for a kite. Kites have reclaimed their rightful place in the skies of this country and tethered to the hands of its children.

The Taliban outlawed kit flying when it ran Afghanistan. The reason, they claimed, had to do with the sport of kite fighting, which is talked about extensively in "The Kite Runner." Those who fight kites try to cut the strings of the kites of competitors using special glass-lined string in an attempt to be the last kite in the air. The gambling associated with kite fighting was the justification the Taliban gave for banning kites.

But to the rest of the world, it looked as if the Taliban only wanted to outlaw fun.

Although I have yet to see a kite fight, I have seen plenty of kids enjoying the innocent pleasure of flying their kites.

The kites they have are not the fanciful things with tails we pick up at Wal-Mart for a couple of bucks back in the States. There are no Dora the Explorer, Sponge Bob or Spider Man motifs on them.

They are the simplest of kites but seem to bring immeasurable joy.

With all of the things we still have to accomplish here and with all of the problems we all seem so focused on "fixing," it's good to know our presence in this country has had an impact. Kites dance on the wind again in Afghanistan. It is something so unimportant and yet so vital. 

A refugee boy has little, but seems proud of his kite.